namely, "The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985". A quasi-judicial body designated as "The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR)" has been set up under the Act to deal with the problems of sick industrial companies in an effective manner, which has beecome operational with effect from the 15th May, 1987.

(ii) The Resrve Bank of India have issued guidelines to the banks for strengthening the monitoring system and for arresting industrial sickness at the incipient stage so that corrective measures are taken in time.

(iii) The banks have also been directed by the Reserve Bank of India to formulate rehabilitation packages for the revival of potentially viable units. The banks and financial institutions evolve rehabiliation packages for the revival of sick units.

(iv) Reserve Bank of India have also issued guidelines separately to the banks indicating parameters within which banks could grant reliefs and concessions for rehabilitation of potentially viable sick units without reference to to RBI both in the large and small scale sectors.

(v) Government of India introduced a Margin Money Scheme with a view to supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in reducing the incidence of sickness in the small scale sector. Under the liberalised scheme the maximum amount assistance per unit available to sick small scale units for rehabilitation has been increased from Rs. 20000 to Rs. 50000.

Commission for Promotion of Small Scale Industries

1309 SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has proposed wide ranging policy initiatives including a separate commission for promotion of small scale industries in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government have since taken any decision to implement the proposals of the Planning Commission; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and what other steps Government propose to take to promote small scale industries in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) A paper prepared by the Planning Commission in July '88 for a meeting of the Consultative Committee attached to the Planning Commission contained a number of suggestions including a separate Commission for Promotion of Small Scale Industry in the country. These were made with a view to generating some thoughts and seeking guidance of the Consultative Committee of Parliament on the same. The suggestions/recommendations contained in the paper are not the conclusive decisions or recommendations of the Planning Commission. No specific decision have been taken on them. A number of measures have been taken by Governmnt to promote Small Scale Industries in the country which include provision of institutional support and a package of incentives and concession like concessional finance, excise benefits, marketing support through reservation of items for exclusive manufacture and reservation of items for exclusive/partial purchase from small scale units machinery on hire purchase, technical consultancy services, testing facilities common facility services, provision of industrial accommodation and other infrastructural facilities.